

Stallings Frame House
AL-111-B-136
Mill Run Road
Vicinity of Twiggstown
First Half-1800's

The Stallings Frame House, in the Spring Gap region of Allegany County has a rich and varied history. The house was probably built by a man named Isaac Ward and his slaves before the mid-19th century. The posts, railing, and balusters on the front porch are all hand-hewn. Ward's daughter, Eliza Stallings, inherited the property, and it remained in the Stallings family until the 1950's. The house has many interesting features including the common two rooms upstairs, two rooms downstairs arrangement, an enclosed one-flight stairway with a winder, and a low baseboard and tongue and groove floors which are handmade. The house is a memorial to a once prominent eastern Allegany County farming family.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

010725-5404

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Stallings Frame House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Mill Run Road

CITY, TOWN

Oldtown

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**

☒ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC
☐ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

David J. Kerns

Telephone #: 395-5223

STREET & NUMBER

Mill Run Road

CITY, TOWN

Oldtown

☒ VICINITY OF

STATE Maryland zip code 21555

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
 REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #: 459

Folio #: 566

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland,

STATE Maryland 21502

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
 SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

AL-III-E-136

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT ☐ DETERIORATED
☒ GOOD ☐ RUINS
☐ FAIR ☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Stallings Frame House is located on the western side of the Mill Run Road north of an intersection with Walnut Ridge Road near Twiggstown, Maryland.

This building originally consisted of a two story, three bays wide structure. Wall construction is frame, probably board and batten, covered with insulbrick siding.

The building rests on a high foundation of loose rubble fieldstone with no apparent water table. The gable flank roof is covered with tar paper. Eaves consist of a simple overhang with rafterends and fascia on the flanks and frieze on the gabled ends.

One brick chimney located inside end on the north is original. Another brick chimney is located on the outside end of an addition. The entrance is located in the center of the eastern facade. The original windows are pegged with six over six lights. They are reported to be handmade and have simple frames and slipsills.

A gabled frame addition on the western facade on the original has six light casement windows.

The front porch on the west is covered with a shed roof supported by handhewn posts. The railing and balusters on this porch are also handhewn. A rear porch is covered with a shed roof supported by decoratively art posts.

The interior is arranged in the common two rooms downstairs and two rooms upstairs. An enclosed one flight stairway with a winder is located in the northwestern corner. A low baseboard and tongue and groove floors appear, and are reported to be handmade. The windows and door have a simply decorated lintel on the interior.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Stallings Frame House, in the Spring Gap region of Allegany County, has a rich and varied history. The great-granddaughter of the original owners of the property, Estelle Stallings Bradley, is still living and remembers many details about the house.

This farmhouse was built before the Civil War, most likely by a man named Isaac Ward. According to Mrs. David Kerns, present owner of the house, Isaac Ward came from Virginia with his wife, Sarah, and their slaves. Ward and his slaves built the house and put up the fences around it.(1) "Originally there was a very large kitchen with a second floor, the female slaves slept over the kitchen. It was separated from the balance of the first floor, one had to go out the kitchen door onto the porch to enter the parlour, as it was called in those days-- the Kerns dining room. The kitchen was about as large as the balance of the house ; my (Mrs. Bradley's) parents told me it originally had a large fireplace at one end where the cooking was done. The large kitchen was torn down in 1918 and the present one was built."(2)

Isaac Ward's will was registered in 1840, and it states that the property went to Ward's wife Sarah, upon his death, and then passed on to Ward's daughter Eliza. Ward left his wife "four blacks named Nancy, John, Nelson, and Massa" and left Eliza "three blacks named Harriet, Susannah, and Rebecca."(4)

Mrs. Bradley's grandparents were John and Eliza Ward Stallings. They sold the property known as the Isaac Ward farm in 1877 to their son, Aaron P. Stallings.(5) This farm included tracts of land known as "Sliding Place," "Eliza's Bower," and "Ward's Rectitude."(6) Mrs. Bradley mentioned that her great-great grandparents were Edward and Nancy Ward. "Edward Ward was the original owner of the acreage called "Ward's Rectitude." He gave (it) to his son by deed; at that time he was living in Ohio."(7)

This house was owned by members of the Stallings family until Mrs. Bradley sold it to the Kerns family in the 1950's.(8) It is a reminder of a once-prominent eastern Allegany County farming family and their way of life.

(continued)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Allegany County Land Records

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5.7 Acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BYNAME / TITLE David A. Dorsey, Historic Sites Coordinator
Shara Goodwin, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Allegany County Historic Site Survey

DATE

April 2, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

3 Pershing Street

TELEPHONE

777-5944

CITY OR TOWN

Cumberland

STATE

Maryland 21502

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Footnotes

- (1) Interview with Mrs. David Kerns, March 14, 1979. Mrs. Kerns' information came from Mrs. Estelle S. Bradley's cousin, a Mr. Perdew.
- (2) Letter from Mrs. Estelle S. Bradyle, March 22, 1979
- (3) Allegany County Wills, Liber A. Filio 468.
- (4) Ibid
- (5) Allegany County Land Records, Liber 48 Filio 692
- (6) Ibid
- (7) Letter already cited.
- (8) Interview with Mrs. Kerns, This fact is not documented by Land Records, but is true.

TITLE SEARCH

Stallings Frame House
Mill Run Road
AL-111-B-136

Allegany County Deed: Liber 459, Folio 566
Grantee: David J. and Margaret Kerns
Grantor: Estelle S. Bradley
Note: 5.7 Acres
Date: December 27, 1972

Allegany County Deed: Liber 248, Folio 337
Grantee: Estelle S. and Townsend Bradley
Grantor: Blanche R. and Martin Evans
Note: formerly known as Home farm of Aaron P. Stallings
Date: March 13, 1953

Allegany County Deed: Liber 134 Folio 368
Grantee: Blanche Robinette and Frederick L. (her husband)
Grantor: Austin A. Wilson, Trustee
Notes: Blanche daughter of Aaron P. Stallings, et al complainants in
Equity 8650 Estelle Stallings daughter of Aaron P. Stallings
et al defendants property included "Ward's Rectitude"-260.5 acres
"Eliza's Bower"-7 1/8 acres, and "Sliding Place"- 57 acres
Date: September 21, 1920
Consideration: \$2,500

Allegany County Deed: Liber 48, Folio 692
Grantee: Aaron P. Stallings
Grantor: John T. and Eliza (Ward) Stallings
Date: May 18, 1877

Allegany County Wills: Liber A, Folio 468
Grantee: Sarah Ward and Eliza Stallings
Grantor: Isaac Ward
Notes: Isaac Ward left Sarah 4 blacks named Nancy, John, Nelson, Massa.
He left Eliza 3 blacks named Susannah, Harriett, and Rebecca.
Property went to wife, Sarah, then daughter, Eliza.
Date: May, 1840

Baltimore, Maryland

March 22, 1979

Miss Shara Goodwin,
3 Pershing St.,
Cumberland, Maryland

Dear Miss Goodwin,

The farm house on Cresap Mill Run Road dates back before the Civil War, I don't know how long before or who built it. My grand parents died long before I was born, and I was in my early teens when my parents died. At that early age I wasn't too interested in my ancestors, unfortunately.

Originally there was a very large kitchen with a second floor, the female slaves slept over the kitchen. It was separated from the balance of the first floor, one had to go out the kitchen door onto the porch to enter the parlour, as it was called in those days--the Kerns dining room. The kitchen was about as large as the balance of the house; my parents told me it originally had a large fireplace at one end where the cooking was done. The large kitchen was torn down in 1918 and the present one was built.

My grand parents John and Eliza Ward Stallings lived in the house, I don't know if my great-grand parents Isaac and Sarah Ward lived there or not, perhaps there were other houses on the acreage at that time.

My great-great grand parents were Edward and Nancy Ward. Edward Ward was the original owner of the acreage called "Ward's Rectitude". He gave to his son by deed; at that time he was living in Ohio.

I have a copy of Isaac Ward's will in which he mentions names of slaves left to his wife Sarah, also to his daughter Eliza Ward Stallings. The date on the will is 1840.

I had not heard about my great-grandfather coming from Virginia until Mrs Kerns told me. Some years ago Members of my aunt Ginny's (Virginia) Perdew's family visited the farm, Mrs kern's said the man who gave her the information was quite old. I presumed that he was Aunt Virginia Perdew's son. It sounds reasonable for the fact that I doubt if there were other slaves in that immediate area. Isaac Ward could have migrated to Virginia as a young man, married and lived there for some time, then returned to Maryland with his wife and slaves.

If you wish to contact members of the Perdew family they lived in the Chaneyville, Pa. area, which isn't far from Flintstone, Md. My aunt was born and raised at the farm house, perhaps she passed information on to her children and grand children. Her daughter is dead, but she had a number of grand sons, their last name is Beck. She also had a grand daughter Mary Beck Swartzwelder, I don't know her

husband's first name. Their address was Route 1, Flintstone, Md.

Unfortunately I haven't kept up with the cousins on that side of the family.

I do hope the information I've given you will be of some help. If you are able to get any more information please pass it along to me, I will be interested.

Sincerely,

Estelle S Bradley

Estelle S Bradley

Mrs. Townsend Bradley
100 W. Cold Spring Lane
Baltimore, Maryland 21210

INVENTORY NO: AL-111-B-136DATE: 9/7/78REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minorNAME OF PROPERTY: Stallings Frame HouseLOCATION OF PROPERTY: MILL RUN ROADDIRECTION DWELLING FACES: EastNAME OF OWNER: David KernsADDRESS: Mill Run RoadOldtownSTORIES: 1() 2(☒) 3() 4() 5() 6() BAYS: 1() 2() 3(☒) 4() 5() 6() 7() ()WINGS, ADDITIONS: on w. Gable frame 6 Light casementsDWELLING SHAPE: (square, cross, rectangular)

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

- (☒) FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten (type?)
() BRICK: Bond type - common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.
() STONE: Bond type - rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
() LOG
(☒) OTHER: Coverings insul brick

WALL FEATURES: Belt Course, Pilasters, Others _____

FOUNDATIONS: High, Low, Brick, Stone RUBBLE - FieldstoneWATER TABLE: None, Plain, Beveled, Moulded BrickWINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1() 2/2() 6/6(☒) 9/6() 9/9() other() SIMPLE FRAME
pegged(☒) nailed() wide() narrow() mitred() pediment() SKIPSILLS
ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: center East decorative lintel interior doors and windows
HARDWARE: original() replaced(☒)
FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN
Paneled, Vertical, Horizontal BoardsCORNICE BARGE EAVES: (crown, fascia, soffit, bed)
original(☒) replaced() rafter ends, modillions, dentils, frieze, architrave

ROOF: Gable front, Gable flank, Hip, Shed, Mansard, Gambrel, Flat, Dormers # _____

MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin. asphalt; TARPAPEX original() replaced()PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed(☒) hip() gable() handhewn posts, rail, balustersCHIMNEYS: Number: 2 Brick(☒) Stone() Corbeled() original(☒) replaced(☒)
Location: Flush end() Inside end(☒) Outside end(☒) Central() Interior()
orig

ARCHES: Door & Windows: Keystone, Flat, Segmental, Semicircular

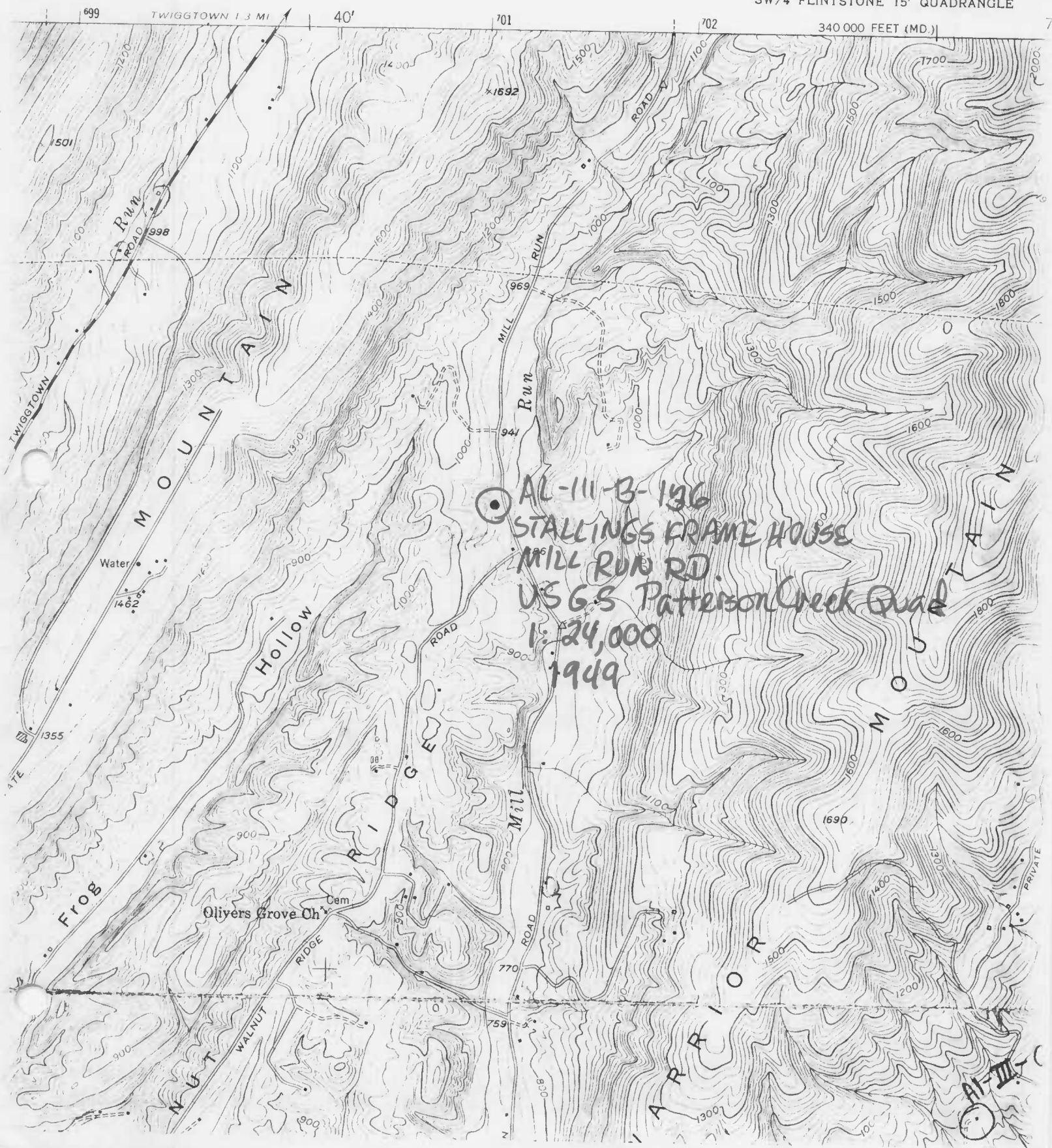
COMMENTS:

USE: _____

DATE OF CHANGE: _____

2 rooms up - down. enclosed 1
flight stair w/ winder NW corner. low
baseboard tonguegroove floors handmade

PATTERSON CREEK QUADRANG
MARYLAND—WEST VIRGINIA
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC
SW/4 FLINTSTONE 15' QUADRANGLE





A2-111-B-136

Stallings Frame House
Mill Run Rd.

David A. Dorsey

9/7/78
Northwest



A1-III-B-136

Stallings Frame House

MILL RUN RD.

David A. Dorsey

9/7/78

Northeast